

GOOD AND BAD READING.

Best Kind Must Arouse Reflection and Build Up Ideals.

Schopenhauer said: "The surest way of having no thoughts of our own is to take up a book every time we have nothing to do." That is not the popular idea, for reading is generally regarded as the generator of thought and character. But it is not so of itself. One must do something besides read. He must digest what he reads. He must increase the range of his perceptive powers, start up a new set of relations and draw some fresh conclusions. There are people who read a great deal more than other people, but know a great deal less. They read just to read—to put in time; for a pleasurable sensation that one gets lying in a hammock or drinking a glass of soda. There is no digestive force in it that builds up brain fiber. It is the sort of reading that sustains insipid talk and makes one in a little social circle turn away in disgust when a serious subject is referred to. The fact is the only kind of reading that is worth the time employed is that which arouses reflection and builds up ideals.

GIVING THE ROYAL ASSENT.

Lord Thurlow Rather Unceremonious, According to George III.

At the close of the late British parliamentary session five peers, acting under letters patent, went through the ancient and picturesque ceremony of giving the royal assent to those bills which have completed their stages. According to the constitution the approval of the monarch is essential before a bill can become law, but it is nearly 200 years since an occupant of the British throne was so greatly daring as to disapprove of a parliamentary measure.

George III. was once minded that way. He had gone down to the country when Lord Eldon followed him and proceeded to explain the character of certain bills for which the royal assent was desired. This did not suit King George. "Bring down the bills for me to read," he exclaimed, "or do as Thurlow did." "And what was that, your majesty?" asked Lord Eldon. "Well, Thurlow read several bills once and then said, 'It's all nonsense trying to make you understand them and you had better consent to them at once.'"

Special Correspondence From Western Newspaper Union

We Will Publish More of These Upon Request From Subscribers.

Good in All Books.
No book is so bad but that something may be learned from it.—Pliny.

Ten Women Wheelwrights.
The last United States census reports ten women working as wheelwrights in the country.

Slaughter of English Birds.
Half a million grouse and nearly half a million partridges are killed yearly in Great Britain.

As the Mind Is.
Let thy mind's sweetness have its operation upon thy body, clothes and habitation.—George Herbert.

The Superiors.
Some people in this world think they are so superior they must expect to be awful lonesome in heaven.

Generally Has Long to Wait.
The man who is satisfied to sit down and wait for something to turn up will need a good thick cushion to his seat.

Folly's Crown of Follies.
"Folly's crown of follies is on the head of him who tries to pay his debt to humanity by mere money."—American Magazine.

Like Attracting Like.
"Do you see any good reason why a doctor should not also be a poet?" "Certainly not; isn't poetry a drug to the market?"

Installment Plan Victims.
More than 11,000 people were imprisoned in England last year for debt. Most of them were the victims of the installment plan.

Various Kinds of Thoughts.
Thinking isn't always a useful occupation. It depends upon the thinker, and a good deal more upon the thoughts.—Home Notes.

Tameless Causing Extermination.
The dotted one of the rarest British birds, owes its near approach to extermination to its tameness. It is easily caught in nets.

More Accurate.
"Herstory" would be a better word than "history," with which to describe the record of the world's events.—Judge.

Never.
A woman never underestimates her husband's ability when she names the amount of alimony she thinks she ought to have.

The Naivete of Art.
"By Jove, Miss Naseby! your coloring is exquisite—superb. I wish you could afford to have me paint your portrait."—Judge.

Child Climbs High Mountain.
Fuji-Yama, Japan's most famous mountain, which is 13,000 feet high, has been successfully climbed by a nine-year-old girl.

First English Fireproof House.
The first fireproof house seen in England was built by David Hartley in 1778. Iron and copper plates were laid between double floors.

Perhaps He Sang to Her.
While a farmer at Piddington, England, was milking a cow the cow went to sleep, fell on him and seriously injured him.

Good Cause for Worry.
Jones—"Old Grigsby looks worried. I wonder what the trouble is?" Smith—"His only son thinks he can play the races, and his only daughter thinks she can play the piano."

Smashing Records.
In crops, in railroads, in steamships, in all kinds of sports we go on smashing records. By and by time will be obliterated, and Quantity will be vast beyond comprehension.

Fame.
Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some leap at once into fame while making a "one-handed stab" at a battled ball.

The Prophecy of the Fall.
The message of the fall is no threnody over the dying year, but a glad prophecy of the renewed life which is to come.—Martha Buckee Flint.

Newspapers in India.
There are 713 newspapers printed in India, being 100 more than there were ten years ago. The number of the periodical publications (other than newspapers) is 747, being an increase of 284 within a decade.

Up to Him.
Close—I don't like that suit you are wearing.
Mrs. Close—Neither do I, but it was the best I could get with the money you gave me.—Detroit Free Press.

Effective Jewel Setting.
Emeralds set in jewelry of any kind are much more effective if combined with diamonds, the "white" stone, as jewelers say, "throwing up" the liquid green of the emerald.

For the Business Woman.
There are two things for a business woman to bear in mind during business hours—her duty toward her employer and her self-respect.—Home Chat.

Sacrifice of Horses.
The average number of horses killed in Spanish bull fights every year exceeds 5,000, while from 1,000 to 1,200 bulls are sacrificed.

A Soldier's Life.
Compared with a few years ago, the soldier's life in barracks presents an improvement that is calculated to turn a Chelsea pensioner sour at his ill-luck in being born so early.—London Navy and Army.

Comparatively Moderate.
"Certain of our women twang and whine and whiffle and whinny," says W. D. Howells. Let us thank Mr. Howells for the moderation of his language. He might have said they snorted.

Manners Mean Much.
Manners bring together or separate men by a force more invincible than that of opinions, I would almost say than by that of sentiment.—Madame De Staël.

Change in Authors' Positions.
It is pleasant to read of all these contemporary authors, with their sumptuous royalties and their successful investments in mines. Grab street is no longer for them. Their lines are cast on Easy street.

Hardly Corroborative Detail.
"That conceited young jackanapes acts as though he were the big gun of the establishment. Has he anything to make him think so?" Only the fact that he's going to be fired.—Baltimore American.

Uncle Eben.
"If de dollar dat you has," said Uncle Eben, "was sho' nuff as big as a dollar seems when you broke, a man wouldn't be able to carry mo'n six bits in his pocket at a time."—Washington Star.

South African Winter Resort.
The popularity of Victoria falls, Rhodesia, as a winter resort for English men and women is increasing to such an extent that it has been found necessary to augment the railway service and to increase the hotel accommodations.

In Peace, as it Were.
A London doctor says every man should have a silent hour at home each day. There are men who will lean to the opinion that it would be easier to have their silent hours away from home.

The Soldier and the Christian.
A man can no more be a Christian without facing evil and conquering it, than he can be a soldier without going to battle and encountering the enemy in the field.—E. H. Chapin.

Good Advice to Boys.
First-class dairy goods, first-class fruit and vegetables, first-class poultry and eggs, first-class farm stock—these are always in demand at the best prices. Be a first-class farmer.—American Cultivator.

Attention, Advertisers!
New ways of advertising are constantly being devised. Some time ago the English papers contained an account of an author in London who committed suicide for the purpose of advertising his latest novel.—Printer's Ink.

Evil of Too Much Reading.
A bookish man, says Dr. William Osler, may never succeed. Deeply versed in books, he may not be able to use his knowledge to practical effect; or, more likely, his failure is not because he has read too much, but observed too little.

How Fish Find Protection.
Divers in the clear waters of the tropical seas find that fish of different colors, when frightened, do not all dart in the same direction, but that each different kind takes shelter in that portion of the submarine growth which is nearest in color to that of the fish.

Drunkard's Logic.
"Why do I drink brandy so early in the morning?" Simply because when I've taken a glass of brandy I feel quite another man. Then that other man wants a glass of brandy, and he feels quite another man. After a bit I lose count.—Figaro.

Sweet Girl.
"And then, mind you," exclaimed Miss Passay, "he asked me if I wouldn't marry the first man that came along." "The ideal!" remarked Miss Knox. "Don't those obviously unnecessary questions make you sick?"

Figures that Stagger.
All the men, women and children now living weigh less than half as much as the coal mined in the United States this year. The iron ore brought down the lakes this season will equal in weight about 30 per cent of the population of the globe.

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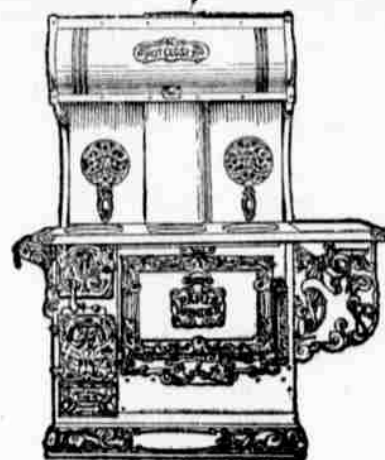
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